GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:189
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
TELECASTING OF OBJECTIONABLE EPISODE ON V-CHANNEL
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether V-Channel has recently produced and telecast an objectionable episode against which there was popular protests aroused all over the country by the viewers and critics;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF T MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.189 FOR ANSWER ON 4.8.2000

(a), (b) & (c): A complaint was received by the Government alleging obscene behaviour in public places shown on a private TV channel namely Channel `V` on 4th June, 2000. Some newspaper reports to this effect werealso brought to the notice of the Government. The matter was referred to the Police Commissioner, Mumbai. The Mumbai Police have informed that theyhave registered a case against the members of the production team of V- Channel under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Indecent Representation of Women Act and Bombay Police Act for vulgarity, obscenity and indecent representation of women. The Mumbai Police has been requested to keep the Government informed about the progress and the result of their investigation. Relevant law of the land will take its own course in such cases and local law enforcing agencies would act accordingly.

It has also been brought to the notice of the Government that Channel`V`, through a public notice, published in newspaper have expressed their apologies to those who have been offended by the programme and have informed that they have suspended the programme and severely reprimanded the employees responsible for the production and airing of the offending episode.